



# OPERATION BACKFIRE

A FUGITIVE ECOSABOTEUR'S RETURN TO THE NORTHWEST



# letters

## THE PRICE OF TOO MUCH FREEDOM

We recently lost a Lane County resident who was, and will always be, a world renowned writer, Barry Lopez. His last book, *Horizon*, was published in 2019.

A paragraph in the first pages describes how he felt about his country at the time of the writing: “Perhaps I’m in a minority, feeling that the instability of my own country is partly the result of its support of an adolescent’s ideal — that the people should be free to do whatever they want — and its obsession with personal gratification, whatever the cost. Lives without restraint are eventually ruinous, to those individuals and to the social and physical world around them.”

We see it more and more every day.

Lisa Readell  
Florence

## VACCINATION NEEDS A NATIONAL POLICY

As a senior myself I sympathize with Robert Lowry’s frustration at Gov. Kate Brown’s delaying vaccinations for seniors (“The Governor’s COVID Wind,” Letters 2/11). However he leaves out an important

point. Yes, “90-plus percent of the ongoing COVID-19 deaths are in the elderly (65 or more years old).” But a large percentage of those senior deaths were in nursing homes. Nursing home and memory care units were offered vaccinations in the very first group in Oregon.

To me the bigger frustration is the lack of a national priority list. Every state, and in some cases counties, have their own priority list. For example, 65-plus-year-old Oregonians who work across the Columbia in Washington state have been able to get vaccinated in Clark County, Washington, for quite some time.

Annette Gurdjian  
Eugene

## NOTHING CLEAN ABOUT NATURAL GAS

In response to Patty Hine’s letter (*EW* 2/4) about the claim that natural gas is a “clean bridge fuel,” it is the case that for a net unit of energy, natural gas releases less CO2 than oil or coal. However, the benefits of natural gas are rendered moot when one considers how it has come to be produced in recent years.

Shale oil and gas fracking represents scraping the barrel of our fossil fuel resources. The wells produce a lot less and deplete much more quickly than the traditional oil and gas wells that characterized the early half of last century.

The only way that shale oil and gas fracking has accounted for a significant increase in U.S. production has been by drilling a staggering number of wells. Flying into Dallas, the drilling pads make the surrounding countryside look like a patchwork quilt.

The sheer number of wells requires a vast network of piping, valves, pumping stations, etc. Such a sprawling mass of infrastructure invariably includes leaks, releasing natural gas into the atmosphere. Given that methane (natural gas) is a far more potent greenhouse gas than CO2 the claim that it’s a “clean bridge fuel” in addressing climate change doesn’t hold up.

Robert Bolman  
Eugene

## SUPPORT VEGAN OPTIONS IN HOSPITALS

The last thing any patient should worry about during a stressful hospi-

tal stay is whether there will be edible food. Oregon does not currently require hospitals to have a vegan option on the menu. With over 9.6 million U.S. vegans, it makes sense for there to at least be one option available for us.

Oregon House Bill 2348 proposes that hospitals and long term care homes should have a 100 percent plant-based meal option for vegan patients. I’ve spent plenty of time in hospitals and, on top of being stressful and scary, it was hard to find healthy plant-based meals. HB 2348 will make appropriate meals available for vegan patients.

If you are not vegan, this bill will not affect you. Nothing in the bill requires you to order a plant based meal, and non-vegan options will continue to be available. Options are good for everyone.

Being vegan is incredibly important to me; I shouldn’t have to skip meals in the hospital. If HB 2348 is passed, it will protect the rights of millions of people to eat healthy, ethical meals, without taking options away from anyone else.

Asher Kramerberry  
Eugene



VIEWPOINT BY TOM COFFIN

# The Arms Industry

REPEAL THE FEDERAL LEGISLATION WHICH GRANTS IMMUNITY TO THE ARMS INDUSTRY  
BASED ON A WARPED CONTORTION OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT

Military weapons were generally never available to the public until relatively recently. Beginning in the 1970s, the NRA and arms industry began to advocate a novel and distorted interpretation of the Second Amendment, which promoted a private right to possess firearms based in part on the notion that this right was hinged on a right to rebel against the government itself. But the same Founders who drafted the Second Amendment had also defined treason in the body of the Constitution as “taking up arms” against the government.

Military weapons are designed and intended for inflicting mass casualties on the enemy in combat, not for hunting or recreational use. Semi-automatic assault rifles, equipped with devastating lethal high velocity bullets and mega-capacity magazines, destroy the internal organs of their targets and cause extremely high fatalities. As an emergency room trauma surgeon who tried to save victims of a mass shooting perpetrated by a killer wielding such a weapon described it — the victims’ organs looked like overripe melons that had been smashed by a sledge hammer. There was nothing left to repair.

In 1994, after 98 people were murdered by shooters wielding such weaponry in separate incidents in California and Texas, Congress passed a 10-year ban against the commercial sales of assault weapons. There were no mass shootings during the decade of the ban.

But in 2004, a different Congress let the ban lapse and refused to extend it despite its success. Even worse, that same Congress, knowing that the carnage would resume after the expiration of the ban, enacted legislation, the Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (PLCAA) after lobbying by the arms industry and NRA, to immunize manufacturers and dealers of these military grade firearms from civil liability arising from the inevitable mass murders that resulted because of their reintroduction into the private market.

A sample of the tragedies which followed include: Virginia Tech, 33 fatalities (2007); Fort Hood, 14 fatalities (2009); Sandy Hook Elementary in Connecticut, 27 fatalities (2012); San Bernardino, California, 14 fatalities (2015); the Orlando nightclub in Florida, 49 fatalities (2016); Sutherland Springs, Texas, Baptist Church, 26 fatalities (2017);

Las Vegas, 58 fatalities (2017); Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, 17 fatalities (2018), El Paso, Texas, 22 fatalities, 26 wounded (2019); Dayton, Ohio, 9 fatalities, 27 wounded (2019).

More recently, the utterly fabricated pseudo-justification for trafficking in military weaponry — the supposed “right” to commit treason by waging war against the government — has featured heavily armed seditious “militias” plotting to attack the Capitol of Michigan to kidnap and execute its governor and other officials and — even more sinister — attack the very seat of the government of the U.S. Congress, in an effort to murder the vice president, the speaker of the House, and the Senate majority leader and other legislators as well as others deemed “enemies” by the “militias.” This was nothing less than an attack on our democracy itself.

The Jan. 6 armed assault of the Capitol overwhelmed security and came perilously close to decimating the nation’s Congress and obliterating the freedom of the people electing our leaders. And all of this was energetically provoked and encouraged by the warped contortion of the Second Amendment — a contortion that has its roots in the greed of the arms industry to generate revenue. It is now irrefutable that the cost to society of flooding the market with military weaponry is measured not only by the multitude of lives that already have been lost and broken, but likewise threatens the cost of civil war and the loss of all our cherished rights and freedom.

For this, Congress grants “immunity” to the arms dealers? For rewarding sedition, mass murders, violent attacks on our Constitutional heritage of self-governing through free and open elections by the citizenry?

It is past time for Congress to cease subsidizing those who profit by and engage in these horrendous attacks on the People, their children, and their government. I encourage all citizens to urge their representatives in Washington D.C. to immediately repeal the PLCAA. ■

*A former federal prosecutor, Judge Thomas Coffin was a U.S. magistrate for the District of Oregon until his retirement in 2017.*

## A MEDITATION ON ST. RUTH

Ruth Bascom was Eugene's first woman mayor, from 1993 to 1996, and she left a legacy that is unparalleled in our community by being a champion of the Riverbank Path System.

Bascom was an avid bike advocate, and she used that passion to create the bike trail that is the true gemstone of Eugene into Springfield. We are blessed as a community to have the beautiful Willamette River flow through it with an amazing park system that takes advantage of our riverfront property.

As a spiritual adventurer and life-long jogger, I know that the cornerstone of my life is the basic grounding influence of meditation; the reason I love Bascom so much is because when I hit the trail on the Riverbank Path System I immediately go into what I call "active meditation." I let go of all my day-to-day problems and trials and allow the trail to immerse me in nature, where all questions are answered.

This is an amazing asset for all who live in our community, and there is easy access to all parts of the trail from beyond the Owosso Bridge to the boat landing in Springfield and beyond. Get on the trail and enjoy your own "active meditation."

Ruth Bascom for sainthood.

Richard Blackstone  
Creswell

## REPUBLICAN REBOOT: THE SHIT PARTY

I think it's time for Republicans to come clean and rename their party to accurately identify its true mission. Maybe "Panicky White People on the Wrong Side of History" party. How about the "Gutless Assholes Seeking White Minority Rule" party? Here's an idea: "Spewing Hatred, Intolerance and Terror" party,

easily abbreviated as – "SHIT"!

Catchy, huh? And oh, so accurate. Or, you could cut to the chase and call yourselves the "Anti-Black Party." The shoe fits.

I can't imagine what it's like to eat, sleep and live in a cesspool of hypocrisy, denial and fear. But then, I'm not a Republican.

Alex Lee  
Eugene

## SENIORS NEED TO BE VACCINATED NOW

It is very important for seniors to get the vaccine as soon as possible. The death statistics for seniors are extremely high and have been high throughout the year. Many of us started staying in place and wearing masks when we first heard of this illness a year ago in December 2019.

We realized how serious it is. There is a very healthy fear of this virus which past history proves. The common good is always foremost in our minds.

Many seniors do not let their friends into their home or go to family gatherings, for protection and common sense. Many seniors do not have a computer or smartphone, so they actually missed seeing their friends and family for the last year. The school children are able to go on Zoom or Skype on almost a daily basis.

Death itself isn't scary; it is how a person dies. Being hooked up to a lot of machines, a tube shoved down the throat, needles in the arms, is not a welcome dying scene. Most DNR's are ignored by the EMTs or ERs. Seniors worked for many years paying taxes and into the Social Security and Medicare programs — which they could collect until retirement age. Seniors deserve the respect and consideration to get their vaccines now, with no more delays.

Sara Mach  
Springfield

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# A Solution for Pollution

AFTER DEALING WITH THE EFFECTS OF NEIGHBORHOOD POLLUTION FOR DECADES  
A LOCAL COALITION INVESTIGATES CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS

By Taylor Perse



AERIAL VIEW OF  
PAPER TREATMENT PLANT  
JH BAXTER.

Photo by Ephraim Payne/Beyond Toxics

**A**rjorie Arberry-Baribeault believes pollution in west Eugene is the reason her daughter and her best friend's son were diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma without any known family history of cancer.

She alleges it's no coincidence that two kids with no blood relation growing up in west Eugene near the J.H. Baxter wood treatment plant would have the same diagnosis.

"I believe the pollution in west Eugene has something to do with my daughter getting sick," she says. "I think it has something to do with my friend's son getting sick."

Arberry-Baribeault's story is not an anomaly.

Many families living in west Eugene have dealt with the effects of J.H. Baxter for decades. The plant's pollution continues to fill the air and because of its failure

Agency (LRAPA) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are among the organizations involved in the group.

Dylan Darling, public affairs specialist for DEQ, says while they are still learning about the extent of the issue, the goal of the community engagement group is to have meaningful conversations with public stakeholders on the available information as well as to understand and address concerns from those living near the facility.

"DEQ and other agencies want to hear from the public and people living there and how the industrial industry might be affecting them," Darling says. "We are also getting a conversation going about how regulation relates to Baxter."

J.H. Baxter did not respond to request for comment.

In addition to being charged almost \$36,000 in fines over the years for various reasons, including water qual-

ity violations and non-compliance, J.H. Baxter was also plans to meet around once a month. Arkin says that accountability is also an important goal of the collaboration. She says the neighborhoods and community members affected by J.H. Baxter have not been included in conversations in the past.

"I would say that this makes a difference for many ways, and for us, the most important way it makes a difference is to include the community in decision making processes in cleaning up for a frequent and significant polluter," Arkin says. The community's experience, she adds, is necessary to the process of regulating the plant's actions.

Arberry-Baribeault, who also works for Beyond Toxics as the west Eugene community organizer fellow, is a member of the coalition. She joined Beyond Toxics in October 2020 after taking it upon herself to investigate the pollution of nearby neighborhoods, which she thinks is responsible for her daughter's cancer.

Arberry-Baribeault says her daughter, Zion Thompson, was 13 when she was diagnosed. Thompson went through three years of radiation, chemo and hospital operations.

"I have a child who is now cancer free, which is an absolute blessing in our lives," Arberry-Baribeault says. With all the stress of a child with cancer, Arberry-Baribeault says she didn't initially think about it being for any specific reason.

Then, her best friend's son was diagnosed with the same cancer. Their family also had no recent history of cancer, Arberry-Baribeault says. Although Thompson is cancer free, Arberry-Baribeault says her friend's son is still undergoing treatment.

"They grew up together and played in the same parks in the same water. They went to the same daycare around



ARJORIE ARBERRY-BARIBEAULT

**WITH ALL THE STRESS OF A CHILD WITH CANCER, ARBERRY-BARIBEAULT SAYS SHE DIDN'T INITIALLY THINK ABOUT IT BEING FOR ANY SPECIFIC REASON. THEN, HER BEST FRIEND'S SON WAS DIAGNOSED WITH THE SAME CANCER. 'THEY GREW UP TOGETHER AND PLAYED IN THE SAME PARKS IN THE SAME WATER. THEY WENT TO THE SAME DAYCARE AROUND WHERE WE LIVED. I MEAN THEY GREW UP AS COUSINS,' SHE SAYS.**

to properly store hazardous waste, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, has left traces in the soil and groundwater of local neighborhoods. For these communities, positive change may be on the horizon. A creation of a multi-agency coalition is involving local residents to discuss the effects of living near industrial facilities.

This is the first time a group of this size has convened to collaborate, says Lisa Arkin, executive director of Beyond Toxics.

"The goal is to share information about J.H. Baxter through different media and to involve the community in a plan to clean up J.H. Baxter," Arkin says. Beyond Toxics, west Eugene residents, the Lane Regional Air Protection

Agency (LRAPA) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) are among the organizations involved in the group.

In December 2020 DEQ announced that it was investigating an elevated level of dioxins, which are a group of toxic chemical compounds, found in soil near J.H. Baxter. A press release sent at the time said that the toxins did not pose an immediate risk and that J.H. Baxter was the suspected source, though it was not confirmed.

The coalition held its first meeting in December and

where we lived. I mean they grew up as cousins," she says. The west Eugene neighborhood where Arberry-Baribeault raised Thompson was inexpensive. She explains that many families purchase their starter homes there because the housing is cheaper. But they live in a bubble of pollution, she says.

Since joining Beyond Toxics, Arberry-Baribeault says she has interviewed neighbors near the J.H. Baxter plant and has heard similar stories — the smell making them sick, random family members getting cancer. The coalition will provide a chance for these residents to give input on their lived experiences.

"It will take decades to clean that up, but that's why we need to start now," Arberry-Baribeault says. ■

# The Bread Of Life, Given Away

EUGENE RESIDENT CONNECTS WITH WHITEAKER NEIGHBORS THROUGH HIS FRESHLY BAKED BREAD

By Dan Buckwalter

Hobbies sometimes rise out of unusual circumstances. Take Ed MacMullan and his discovery of his love of baking bread.

MacMullan is a 64-year-old Eugene resident who retired three years ago after 28 years as an economic consultant, among other duties, at ECONorthwest, a consulting firm. He was busy enough with volunteer work, including service on the Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council and being a step-father to a high school-aged girl.

Still, something was off in May 2020, the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It was the isolation," he notes, not being able to chat openly with his tight-knit Whiteaker neighbors.

Then one day that month he opened up a two-page spread in *The New York Times* — "How To Make Bread At Any Skill Level" — complete with instructions on no-knead bread, quick breads, sourdoughs and enriched breads. "I never made bread before, or pizza dough," MacMullan says.

He embarked on a multi-day task of making that first loaf, following the directions closely. "And my God," MacMullan declares. "It came out not crappy. It was good."

So good, in fact, that he kept going — loaf after loaf, getting better and more confident in the process, which, from fermenting the starter to kneading, pre-forming and resting, can take up to a week for just a single loaf.

He pokes around on YouTube for tips and shops locally for ingredients, a favorite of which is the flour from Camas Country Mill Bakery.

Then he gives it all away to his friends in the Whit.

It is, he explains, his way of staying in touch with the Whit community in these socially distanced times. Perhaps there will be some bartering, MacMullan says, but money will never be exchanged. One neighbor, he notes, has marked every Friday as "Bread Day" and is always eager to see MacMullan pull up with that day's loaf.

He aims for feedback because he can't sample all the bread he bakes. There's just too much of it, and not enough room at his home to store it. So far, MacMullan says, all the reviews have been favorable.

"I'll believe them," he says. "If they like it, I'll keep doing this."

Even *Eugene Weekly*, which has devoted recent Slants to bread and received emails from readers regarding MacMullan's bread, got into the act recently when MacMullan let us sample his "Country 'Everything' batard." A batard is shaped similarly to a baguette but shorter. And every bite of this one is worth it.

This always will be a hobby, MacMullan says. "There's really good bakers in Eugene. I don't want this to be a job."

Yet, as anyone engrossed in a hobby can attest, some expansion may be necessary. MacMullan says he's kicking the tires on converting the basement of his family home into a bread kitchen, if only to give his wife, Angie Bradford, an assistant at Arts & Technology Academy, the home's main kitchen back.

"I would do it every day," MacMullan says, "but my wife would kill me."

For now, a chance to visit friends in the Whit has made MacMullan's bread baking hobby worth enduring the pandemic. And the bread is outstanding, too. ■



ED MACMULLAN AND A  
FRESH BATCH OF CIABATTA

Photo by Angie Bradford

# Kristi Ann Schmidt: 1973-2021

SHE WAS A MOTHER AND A GREEN BAY PACKERS AND DUCKS FOOTBALL FAN

By Bob Keefer

Kristi Ann Schmidt was found dead Feb. 6 at a motel in Springfield at the age of 47.

Born March 13, 1973, in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, Schmidt was a big fan of the Green Bay Packers and the Oregon Ducks, said her stepfather, John Hall. "Visiting Lambeau Field in Green Bay was a highlight of her life," he said.

Schmidt worked various jobs in Eugene and Springfield. In recent years she struggled with personal issues, a friend said, and most recently lived at the Eugene Mission.



KRISTI SCHMIDT  
IN A FACEBOOK PHOTO

"In today's society our mental health programs are not what they need to be, or this wouldn't have happened," said her son, Eddie Cramer.

She is also survived by her mother, Glenae Hall. She was predeceased by her father, Marty Schmidt.

Kristi Schmidt was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene in Eugene, where plans for a memorial service are pending. ■

*Kristi Ann Schmidt is the third person known to have died while homeless in Lane County in 2021. Eugene Weekly seeks to run obituaries for every homeless person we learn of who dies here this year.*



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## slant

• It was always difficult to imagine 17 U.S. Republican senators summoning the spiritual spine to convict former president Donald Trump for inciting the Jan. 6 mob at the Capitol that killed five people. On Feb. 13 only seven could, and Trump was acquitted. So what was the point of the exercise? **To shine a glaring spotlight on the rats, led by Trump, who perpetuated this monstrosity and for history to record it with precision,** like the Nuremberg trials after World War II and the post-apartheid Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa. Here's hoping enough people paid attention.

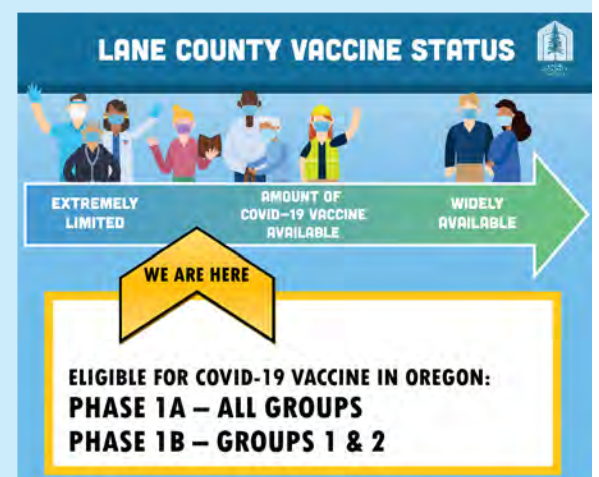
• It would have been great if a full auditorium on the University of Oregon campus could have heard Professor Lia Epperson give the 2021 Derrick Bell Lecture in person Feb. 12, but that's for another non-COVID time. Listening on our phone, **we heard her present a brilliant lecture on "Are We Still Not Saved? Race, Democracy and Educational Inequality."** Epperson is a professor of law at the American University Washington College of Law. The UO's Derrick Bell Lecture series honors Bell, who from 1980 to 1985 was the first African American to serve as dean of the UO law school. If we could only eliminate educational inequality, it would be a huge advance for democracy and against racism in America. Maybe we could be saved.

• "Losing Health and Home: Oregon's Pending COVID-19 Eviction Crisis," the City Club of Eugene topic for Feb. 19, is the final in a **three-part series on local housing issues.** Speakers are: Rep. Julie Fahey, chair of the Oregon House committee on housing; Jason Miller, legislative director of the Oregon Rental Housing Association, and Alison McIntosh, policy and communications director from Neighborhood Partnerships. This program will air on the City Club Facebook and YouTube pages starting at noon on Feb. 19.

• A Eugene native now living on Lopez Island in the San Juans has sent an urgent message to Eugene Parks and Open Spaces about **the tree just cut down on the top of Spencer's Butte,** as reported Feb. 15 by *The Register-Guard*. Hoping she is not too late, Aureore Moursund Maren writes: "I feel very strongly that the wood of the tree which was murdered on Spencer's Butte should go to Tim Boyden." She says the artist who works in wood, "would give a great gift in making a memorial tribute to this tree for all who have known and loved this tree." Boyden was one of three artists whose show just closed at Maude Kerns Art Center. We agree with this fine idea, an artist's tribute to a special tree.

• **We had a heartwarming response from readers** to our announcement Feb. 11 that *EW* plans to publish obituaries for every homeless person who dies here in 2021. The response is epitomized by a response on Facebook by a reader who wrote, "Thank you for showing these poor souls as humans like the rest of us." That is the goal of the project, as well as to call attention to the reality of what happens to the unhoused in this town. People really do care, and hopefully this effort will create still more needed changes. Sadly, we have another death to report in this issue.

• As more and more people get their COVID-19 vaccine, we look forward to getting to our new normal — one that involves guilt-free hugging and dining without a winter coat on. **If you haven't already signed up to be notified when you are eligible for vaccination, head on over to the Lane County website,** [Lane-County.org](http://Lane-County.org) and click on the coronavirus link to preregister. Personally, we can't wait to get our double doses of the Fauci-Ouchie. **Also, Rite Aid recently announced its Eugene location is now a free coronavirus testing site.** The pharmacy has partnered with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to offer drive-through self-nasal swab tests across the country, but until last week, the closest locations to Lane County were Corvallis and Lebanon. The testing is done by Verily and its Baseline COVID-19 Testing Program, and you just go to [RiteAid.com](http://RiteAid.com) to get an appointment. And if Rite-Aid is booked, remember the University of Oregon has been offering free testing to asymptomatic community members. Get your appointment at [Coronavirus.UOoregon.edu/Map-Testing](http://Coronavirus.UOoregon.edu/Map-Testing).



[via lanecounty.org/coronavirus](http://via.lanecounty.org/coronavirus)





## FROM SEATTLE TO SYRIA, FROM RUSSIA TO AN ARREST IN CUBA, AN ECOSABOTEUR AND 12-YEAR FUGITIVE NOW AWAITS SENTENCING BY A EUGENE JUDGE

BY ARDESHIR TABRIZIAN

**E**n route to Havana, Cuba, on May 21, 2018, a man identifying himself as “Yousef Deba” was stopped by El Salvadorian authorities after he showed his passport and travel documents. He was photographed, his eye was scanned, he was twice fingerprinted and his electronics were searched.

His biometric data matched information on an outstanding warrant from Oregon for a Joseph Dibee. He was allowed to board a plane to Havana, where he was arrested by Cuban agents, who contacted the U.S. and agreed to turn him over to federal authorities.

The U.S. had finally captured one of the last remaining fugitives from the Northwest ecowars of the late 1990s, an outbreak of fires and other sabotage that gripped the region’s attention. In previous years 15 other people surrendered or were caught by federal agents who branded the young activists as “terrorists,” though they never injured or killed anyone.

This is the story of Dibee’s years on the run, a complex tale of international intrigue and betrayal. Except where noted, it’s based on court documents obtained by *Eugene Weekly*.

The suspects in the case were believed to be part of an ecosaboteur group the feds say was known as “The Family,” and consisted of members of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) and Earth Liberation Front (ELF).

When he was arrested, Dibee had been a fugitive for more than 12 years. Currently released to a family member in Seattle, Dibee faces federal charges in Oregon, California and Washington in connection with an alleged ecosabotage conspiracy and arsons between 1997 and 2001.

The FBI and Joint Terrorism Task Forces investigation was called “Operation Backfire.” The investigation linked The Family to more than 40 criminal acts and resulted in federal grand jury indictments of 17 people. Court records show

several members — Dibee not included — were accused of arsons in Eugene that destroyed property at Childers Meat Company, a police department substation on 13th Avenue near the University of Oregon and Joe Romania Chevrolet Truck Center. The group targeted businesses involved in what it

believed to be acts of environmental destruction or profiting at the environment’s expense, hoping to spark change among others in the industry, according to court testimony in 2007 by Terri Wood, an attorney for Stanislas Meyerhoff. Meyerhoff was originally sentenced to 13 years, one of the longest sentences, for his part in the ecosabotage.

Court documents paint a picture of Dibee as a sensitive young man who loved nature, who inherited his father’s love for the outdoors and learning. His father encouraged him on a mushroom picking trip to hunt rabbits with an air rifle. Dibee was profoundly saddened by the death of the rabbit, which he cooked and ate so it wouldn’t have died for no reason. He never hunted again.

His parents once took him to see a hidden spot in the Cascades near Sultan, Washington, where he would return dozens of times. There he began to conceive of himself as an environmentalist.

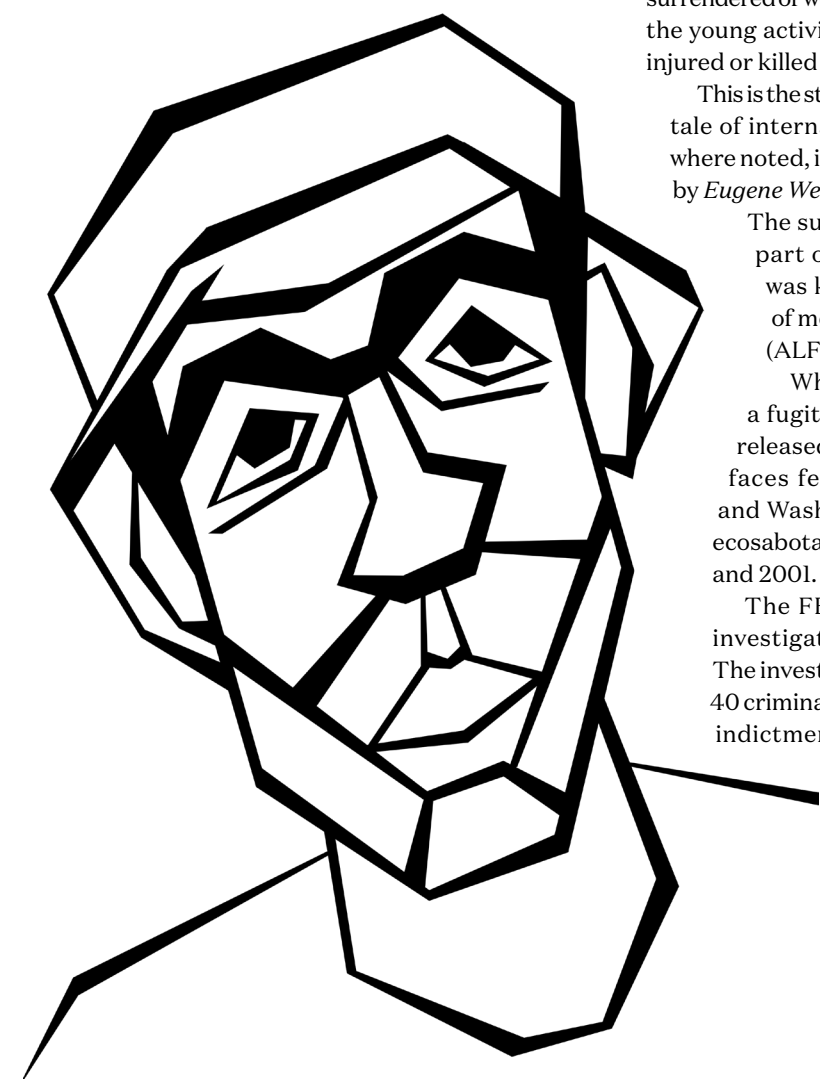
Dibee visited the spot for the last time two years later and found the forest unrecognizable, logging having wiped out every trace. He thought there had to be thousands of people with similar stories, a court filing says. “People whose own special places had been destroyed because of greed and mendacity.”

That was the moment Dibee decided he had to do his part to stop environmental destruction.

Dibee attended Seattle University part time while in high school and became an outdoor guide. He led student trips to public lands to show his peers the impacts of forest mismanagement. After graduating with a civil engineering degree, Dibee worked at the Washington Department of Ecology and later became a construction manager for a wastewater treatment plant. He used the last of his savings to rent a home computer for a month and a half, teaching himself Microsoft Networking on Windows 3.1 in 41 days and landing a job at Microsoft in the late 1990s.

All the same, he suffered from a deep sense of disillusionment.

It was at that time he heard about the plight of wild horses in the West, where the government was rounding up the horses, slaughtering them and exporting the meat for human and animal consumption.







CAVEL WEST,  
REDMOND, OREGON

## DRASTIC MEASURES

Wearing black clothing, Dibee and several others traveled in a van to the Cavel West horse meat packing plant in Redmond in July 1997, the feds say. One stayed with the van as a lookout and another listened to radio traffic on a police scanner while Dibee and the rest entered the slaughterhouse, where they placed timing devices built by Dibee. They returned to the van, poured acid on their clothes to destroy them and drove to Eugene.

The meat packing plant was destroyed by fire. The group later claimed responsibility in a letter to *The Oregonian*. Dibee is also accused of helping destroy the Bureau of Land Management's wild horse corrals near Litchfield, California, in 2001.

In 2005 Dibee and an attorney met with the federal government in Seattle. The government explained the evidence it had gathered incriminating him in an arson that destroyed the horse slaughterhouse, and asked him to cooperate with the investigation.

Not yet charged with any crimes, Dibee was told that he would be charged with the destruction of an energy facility — “a crime that he had nothing to do with,” he said — and could face 30 years in prison unless he cooperated and agreed to testify against other activists.

He contacted his Syrian-born father, who suggested he go to Syria.

Dibee went home and burned the incriminating evidence in his fireplace, according to court testimony from Assistant U.S. Attorney Geoffrey Barrow in 2019. A friend drove him to Mexico, and he flew from Mexico City to Beirut and to Syria.

Dibee argues in a filing that he “did not flee from a pending court date or an indictment that had been filed against him.” He left the country “because what he had been told by the government was so far removed from a reasonable resolution that it would be impossible ... to ever achieve justice.”

In early 2006 Dibee was indicted on charges of arson, conspiracy to commit arson and conspiracy to commit arson and destruction of an energy facility. In 2007, 10 other participants in the ecosabotage received sentences of three to 13 years in the federal courthouse in Eugene. Still others were sentenced later.

## OVERSEAS

Dibee arrived in Syria on Dec. 10, 2005.

Dibee taught computer science and security between 2006 and 2009 at the University of Kalamoon in Dayr Atiyah, Syria, where he created and eventually headed the environmental and civil engineering department. He later began working on a solar energy project he expected would produce 35 percent of the energy in the country, as well as provide power for seven million people, according to Dibee's court testimony.

Tensions were growing in Syria, and for a time, Dibee



BLM WILD HORSE CORRALS,  
LITCHFIELD, CALIFORNIA

managed to steer clear of trouble. But Syrian security officers soon demanded that he help them obtain a large quantity of U.S. dollars stolen from Iraq to make them electronically transferable. One night, terrorists breached the security wall at the complex, shooting and killing one of Dibee's university colleagues.

Dibee fled to Moscow, Russia.

Dibee went into the biodiesel business in 2010 after finding Russia was behind on recycling oils to make biodiesel. He met a Syrian man with Russian citizenship, who he paid to help him obtain longer-term residency. Dibee later found out the man ran human trafficking operations from Syria and North Africa into Scandinavia, and he tried to enlist Dibee's help in flying Arab refugees illegally into Finland.

“Criminal elements were closing in on him just like in Syria,” his court filing says. Dibee left Moscow in 2013 and eventually settled in Krasnodar, a city of about 800,000 people, where he later married.

He worked odd jobs writing software and struggled to support his new wife and stepson, later traveling to Ecuador with an idea to start a business that would export coffee to Russia in an environmentally friendly way.

“It seemed as if [Dibee's] life was turning a corner,” his motion for release says. “He was happily married and for the first time experiencing the joy of being a father. The coffee business looked very promising. He had a valuable consulting contract with a gold mining group to design and engineer a mechanical separator that would be profitable and avert an environmental disaster.”

## EIGHT LONG DAYS

But Dibee ran into trouble when he tried to visit Ecuador. During a long layover in Havana, he was arrested by Cuban agents.

He was taken to a detention facility, where he spent two or three hours in an outdoor cage before a Cuban military intelligence officer took him to a room and “aggressively interrogated” him in a mix of Russian, Spanish and English, his court filing says.

After Dibee refused to confirm he was in a photograph he was shown, the officer ordered others in the room to remove his clothes and conduct a full body search, one placing an assortment of hand tools on the table next

to him. “The Cuban intelligence officer assured [Dibee] that they would use the tools on him unless he confirmed his identity.”

Dibee confirmed he was the person in the photo, and officers photographed him and ran DNA swabs through his mouth. Dibee was taken to a small corner cell, where he stayed for several days with no windows, no water and no toilet — “only a hole in the ground” — and he estimated the temperature in the cell was above 110 degrees Fahrenheit.

“Sitting alone on a concrete bench, the only sounds Joseph Dibee could hear were the buzzing mosquitoes and the sweat from his face splashing on the filthy concrete floor. After the 40th or 50th insect bite, he lost the will to swat the bugs away. The next three days were a haze of dehydration and hallucinations while being savaged by unimaginable heat,” the court filing says.

Dibee passed out numerous times and recalls a nurse checking on him in his cell, “maybe to ensure that he was not dead,” his filing says. “Somehow, Mr. Dibee lived through that for three days.”

A nurse on the fourth day gave Dibee what he thought was a small cup of juice that made him feel drugged — “perhaps with a tranquilizer or antianxiety medication” — soon after drinking it. He recalls the Cuban intelligence officer telling him he needed to “tell us about the fires” if he wanted water.

It didn't take long for Dibee to start fabricating a story about robbing and burning banks, telling them he had been involved with stolen cars, partnered with long-deceased outlaw Jesse James and set fire to Microsoft. He lied as much as he could in hopes that he could stay in the cool room and drink water as long as possible.

Cuban authorities rewarded him for cooperating by moving him to a different cell, which was only about 90 degrees and had a faucet that was turned on for about 15 minutes once a day. A couple of days in, the intelligence officer came to Dibee's cell and accused him of lying, according to the court filing. “He told [Dibee] that unless he told the truth he would throw him in the ocean, and no one would ever know what happened to him because no one knew he was there.”

The officer gave Dibee a statement in English containing accurate details about the case and implicating Dibee, which he signed immediately out of fear for his life, his court filing says.

“I can't get an answer from the government about how they did that,” Matthew Schindler, the attorney representing Dibee, tells *EW*. Dibee was moved to another cell and given food for the first time since he arrived at the airport days prior. Dibee was sure it was dog food, but “anything was welcome at that point. He was no longer being taken to an interrogation room and questioned. [Dibee] had disappeared off the face of the earth for eight days courtesy of Cuban military intelligence.”

On day eight, covered with scabs and insect bites and rail thin from starvation and dehydration, Dibee was taken from his cell and allowed to call his wife to let her know he was alive and detained in Cuba.

Then he was driven back to the airport, where he was handed over to an American rendition team, his filing says.

“Get on the plane,” the team said. “We can do this the easy way, or we can do this the hard way.” As U.S. authorities filmed, Dibee shuffled aboard the plane. Two federal agents tried to interrogate Dibee on the plane to which he responded that he was represented by counsel. “The interrogation ended,” the court filing says. Hours later, Dibee was turned over to U.S. Customs and Department of Homeland Security officials at the airport in Portland.



The U.S. government hasn't yet clarified how it coordinated with a foreign nation it has no diplomatic relationship with to arrest him. In court testimony, Dibee referred to the time he was "kidnapped in Cuba."

"He was not kidnapped in Cuba," a federal prosecutor said in court. "He was arrested on an arrest warrant out of this district." The government asked the judge to keep him detained.

## COURT WHIPLASH

Dibee took the stand at his Dec. 13, 2019, hearing in Portland U.S. District Court, his testimony detailing the environmental work he had been up to for the previous 12 years.

"The charges leveled against me are from three lifetimes ago," Dibee said. "There are three different countries. They're three different languages. They're three different cultures ago. And, you know, as time goes by, people develop. They develop intellectually, they develop socially, they change their persona for the better, I should hope. And I can't say that I'm the same person today that I was a year ago. I — certainly not two decades ago."

For the last 15 years of his life, Dibee said, he had tried to effect positive change through good environmental and financial practices.

Barrow said at the hearing that it was clear Dibee could make valuable contributions to society. "But he was not living in Russia and Syria for business opportunities," he said. "He wasn't there for the research opportunities that were afforded. He clearly knew of the charges against him."

Federal Judge Ann Aiken granted Dibee's pretrial release, placing him on house arrest. "I'm going to give you that acknowledgment today that I think you are a different person and you have enormous skills to provide and can do that while you're on pretrial release under these conditions," she told Dibee at the hearing.

Days later, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the order releasing Dibee, saying he posed a risk of flight and danger to the community.

## TROUBLE BEHIND BARS

Dibee was in jail in Portland on Dec. 30, 2019, when an inmate "blasted" him in the side of the face from behind, breaking his jaw, he says. The inmate — described as a neo-Nazi prison gang member — had reportedly heard that Dibee was an "Arab terrorist" who took down a power transmission line near Bend and was targeting that community.

The inmate was quickly identified but has not been prosecuted, according to the court filing, and it wasn't until three days after the incident that Dibee was admitted

to the Oregon Health & Science University emergency room. "The jail ignored the seriousness of Mr. Dibee's injury for 72 hours while Mr. Dibee suffered excruciating pain from a displaced fracture in his jaw," the filing says.

Judge Aiken later said it was unacceptable that the court was not aware the attack happened until over a week later, adding that "anybody with a right mind" would have taken steps to protect Dibee given the heavy news coverage of the case. "I do not want to get a call that he was found hung or dead in the prison cell."

Defense investigator Erin Howell said in a report that Dibee had lost 17 pounds as a result of the attack less than a month after it happened and the jail consistently did not provide enough food, according to the court filing. The report also notes his physician's "deep concerns" about Dibee not getting access to physical therapy, the filing says.

In July 2020, U.S. Marshals took Dibee to a federal courthouse, where he remained for nine hours locked in a room with residual CS gas from recent protests downtown, according to the motion for release. Having suffered from asthma since he was a child, Dibee had his first serious asthma attack in years after returning to jail that night. The court filing says he continued to suffer respiratory distress over a month after being exposed to the tear gas.

The jail reported to the court that Dibee needed to be moved out of the medical unit because it was getting full, Schindler tells *EW*. "If no one's sick, why is medical getting full?" he recalls asking during the hearing.

Dibee was first transferred to a mental health isolation unit in the jail before being moved to another unit. Schindler says he received a call from an investigator who said Dibee had lost his sense of taste and smell and tested positive for COVID two to three days later.

"At least three inmates became sick because of the situation with Joe. You know, there was no rapid testing. There wasn't sufficient PPE, there wasn't sufficient sanitary supplies. I mean, they just didn't do shit," Schindler says. "It's kind of a brilliant strategy. If you don't test, no one's sick."

## THIRD TIME'S A CHARM

Shackled and sitting on a metal stool in the Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse in Portland, Dibee again appeared in court on Jan. 8, 2021, following his third motion for

release. Aiken said at the hearing she was shocked to learn that Dibee had been moved out of the medical unit over her objection while recovering from his injury, then contracted COVID-19 and was sent back to the unit.

Aiken said that while the charges against Dibee were serious, she didn't believe he was a danger to the community at that point. She ordered Dibee be released to live with his sister pending a negative COVID-19 test and, after completing quarantine, he be allowed to live with and care for his father. He will be subject to GPS monitoring, computer monitoring software installed on his phone and computer, and home confinement with limited exceptions.

Aiken said at the hearing she was disappointed that there was no updated COVID test result for Dibee at the time of the hearing. "I want that test done and I want to know his status," she said. "He's entitled to have the medical care, and I don't want him moved out of the medical unit until he's released."

Dibee was released from custody Jan. 12. A status conference is scheduled for March 10 and a jury trial is set for March 16.

Josephine Overtaker remains the only fugitive from the Operation Backfire investigation. At this point, all of the other people indicted in the ecosabotage, who are still alive, have served time and been released. ■



Illustrations by Chelsea Lovejoy





A pandemic, social unrest and more has amplified the problems that children of color face, especially in schools. The Brookings Institute estimates that two-thirds of minority students still attend schools that are predominantly minority, most of them located in central cities and funded well below those in neighboring suburban districts. **The Early Education Workshop: Supporting Black Children — Part 1**, led by Hadiyah Miller, and hosted by Eugene Public Library, examines this and advocates for anti-bias practices, equity and access to quality education for all children. Miller is the current president of Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (ORAEYC) and has a distinguished 20-year career in child education in the Multnomah County area.

Early Education Workshop: Supporting Black Children — Part 1, led by Hadiyah Miller, is 10 am to 1 pm, Feb. 20 and is hosted by the Eugene Public Library on Zoom. Part 2 is March 13, with sign ups starting Feb. 20. To sign up for the link, call the library at 541-682-5450. — *Dan Buckwalter*

## GENERAL

**LISTINGS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

### ACTIVIST ALERT

Thursday, Feb. 18: New State Bills Threaten Our Right to Dissent, 3-5pm. More info at CLDC.org.

### ART EXHIBITS

Erik Sandgren - "Observed, Imagined and Remembered: The Northwest Landscape" (thru Feb. 27), Karin Clarke Gallery.

Photography At Oregon presents Dan Neklen: Head-Strong - The Women of Rural Uganda (thru Feb 27), Emerald Art Ctr., 500 Main St, Springfield.

Focus Artist - Becki Hesedahl at River Gallery (thru Feb. 28), River Gallery, Independence.

Edward Pabor: Patagonia and Antarctica (thru March 2), PhotoZone Gallery, 22 W. 7th Ave.

Exhibition: Highlights From the Gallery Collection (thru

March 6), White Lotus Gallery.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, JSMA.Uoregon.edu.

### GATHERINGS

Free Tax Help (thru April 11). Appointments required. Call 541-954-7941 or email LaneTaxHelp@gmail.com.

Job Search Help by appointment at the downtown library. Call 541-686-7985 to schedule.

### HEALTH

Zoom classes at YMCA.org.

Zoom workout classes at CrossFit. Email Contact@CrossFitIntensify.com for more info.

Workout classes at IAmForeverStrong.com.

Workout classes at Evolve Fitness Studios. More info at Facebook.

Workout & Yoga Classes at West Lane Fitness in Veneta. More info at WestLane-Fitness.com.

Yoga & Workout Classes at Yoga West Eugene. More info at YogaWestEugene.com

Yoga classes at EugeneYoga.us; WildLightYogaCenter.com; EugeneMudra.com; HotYogaEugeneBalanced.com; YogaEugene.com.

All levels of yoga (chair, advanced, yoga for health care workers and children) at Vista Wellness Center. Visit VistaPsych.com for more info.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Ballet Boost (Virtual) Workshop w/ Ballet Fantastique (ages 6 to 10 thru March 16). Sign up at BalletFantastique.org/boost

The Gutenberg Dialogues: An In-depth look at Tyranny (every Wednesday thru May 19), 6:30-8pm. More info at Gutenberg.edu. \$32-63.

### MUSIC

Oregon Mozart Players Candlelight Concert online (thru March 1). More info at OregonMozartPlayers.org. \$5.

"Music to Save Earth's Songs," videos posted Mondays and Thursdays thru March. More info at Liber-alarms.Oregonstate.edu.

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18

### FILM

Springfilm: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* - Live Stream and Film Discussion, 6:30pm. Link at Springfield-or.libcal.com.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Healing Through Discussion Group w/ Trauma Healing Group, 9:30-11am. More info at HealingAttention.org. FREE-\$15.

Feldenkrais® Awareness through Movement, 10-11am & 6-7pm. More info at Body-WorkbySabine.com.

Women in Transition Information Sessions, 10-11am. More info at LaneCC.edu.

### ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29

Thursday Night Jazz, 10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM

### RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

### SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

## FRIDAY FEBRUARY 19

### COMEDY

Friday Night Funny: Suggestions Only w/ Majestic Theatre, 7:30pm, App.arts-people.com. FREE-\$10.

### GATHERINGS

City Club of Eugene: "Losing Health & Home: Oregon's Pending COVID-19 Eviction Crisis," noon, Eugene City Club Facebook Page. Aired again at 7pm Monday, Feb. 22, on KLCC, 89.7 FM

Food Not Bombs, cooking starts at noon (email EugeneFoodNotBombs@gmail.com for location), serves at 4pm at Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St. next to fountains.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Foundations of NeuroMeditation: Instructor Training, 9am-1:30pm. More info at NeuroMeditationInstitute.com. \$495.

Expression Through Art w/ The Trauma Healing Project, 4-5pm. More info at HealingAttention.org. FREE-\$15.

Nikole Hannah-Jones on "1619 and the Legacy That Built a Nation", 4:30-6pm. Link at UOregon.zoom.us.

Friday Night Writes: Quarantine Edition, 6-9pm. FREE-\$15.

### LITERARY ARTS

What to Read Next: Love Edition, 6pm, Eugene Public Library YouTube.

### MARKETS

The Emporium, Veneta (in Elmira thru Sunday) a pop-up shop, noon-6pm, Elmira Grange, 88764 Sprague Rd.

### MUSIC

Friday Night Folk Music Live Stream, 7pm. More info at Kathryn Rose Celtic Folk Festival Facebook page.

### SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation (instruction provided), 7pm. Zoom only at BlueCliffZen.org.

### THEATER

Lane County Community College SPA Presents *LIFE*, by Charles Mee, Feb. 19 & 20, 7:30pm. More info on Facebook.

## SATURDAY FEBRUARY 20

### FARMERS MARKETS

Lane County Farmers Market Winter Market, 10am-2pm, Park Blocks, 8th Ave. & Oak St.

### GATHERINGS

Burrito Brigade, 9:30am-3:30pm. More info at BurritoBrigade.org.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Intro to Genealogy - Getting Started, 9-10am. More info at Oregongs.org.

Early Education Workshop: Supporting Black Children - Part 1, 10am. More info w/ Eugene Public Library at 541-682-5450.

Intro to Ancestry, 10:30am-12:30pm. More info at Oregongs.org. \$10.

### ON THE AIR

The Dr. Yeti Show, 10pm-midnight, KOFC, 92.5 FM or streamed at KOFC.org.

The Institute of Spectra Sound, 10pm-midnight, KEPW, 97.3 FM

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21

### GATHERINGS

Burrito Brigade, 11am-4pm. More info at BurritoBrigade.org.

### HEALTH

Occupy Medical, noon-4pm, 1717 Centennial Blvd, Springfield.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Parent-Child Massage Class Benefiting Our Community Birth Center, 11am-noon. More info at Community-BirthCenter.Square.Site.

### RECREATION

Brewers Guild Bingo, 3-6pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove

(weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

### SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 4:30pm, Blue Cliff Zen Center, 352 W. 12th Ave.

Eugene Insight Meditation via Zoom, 6:30pm, Eugene-Insight.com.

### THEATER

East-West Kung Fu Chinese New Year Celebration, 1pm, EWEB Reservoir, W. 25th & Lawrence (50 people limited).

## MONDAY FEBRUARY 22

### HEALTH

Connection Peer Support Group at NAMILane.org, 7pm. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Feldenkrais® Awareness through Movement, 10-11am & 6-7pm. More info at Body-WorkbySabine.com.

Lunchtime Meditation (thru Wednesday), noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

The Joy of Acceptance, 6-7:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2.

## TUESDAY FEBRUARY 23

### GATHERINGS

Lane County Audubon's February Program Meeting, 7-8:30pm, LaneAudubon.org.

### KIDS/FAMILY

Activity Kits for Kids: Mancala Game, 10am, all Eugene Public Library locations.

Family Storytime, 11am, Eugene Public Library Facebook.

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Gentle Restorative Yoga w/ The Trauma Healing Project via Zoom, 10-11am. FREE-\$15.

Lunchtime Meditation (thru Wednesday), noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Lamrim Practice, 6-7:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2.

### LITERARY ARTS

TransPonder Book Club, 5-6pm. More info at Transponder.Community.

## WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 24

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation (thru Wednesday), noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Nia Moving to Heal w/ The Trauma Healing Project via Zoom, 3-4pm. More info at HealingAttention.org. FREE-\$15.

Gender Diverse Yoga w/ The Trauma Healing Project via Zoom, 5:30-6:30pm. More info at HealingAttention.org. FREE-\$15.

Love & Attachment are Different, 6-7:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$2.

### KIDS/FAMILY

Tweens (ages 9-12): Wings of Fire Trivia, Eugene Public Library, 4pm. More info at 541-682-5450.

### ON THE AIR

"Come Together Oregon," 6pm, KEPW, 97.3 FM

### MUSIC

Live music - Acoustic, 5-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

### SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Center, 352 W. 12th Ave.

## THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25

### LECTURES/CLASSES

Healing Through Discussion Group w/ Trauma Healing Group, 9:30-11am. More info at HealingAttention.org. FREE-\$15.

Feldenkrais® Awareness through Movement, 10-11am & 6-7pm. More info at Body-WorkbySabine.com.

Kundalini Basics, 5:30-6:45pm. More info at YogaWestEugene.com.

### LITERARY ARTS

Join us for a Cuppa & a Chat Book Club, 11am. More info at Springfield0or.libcal.com.

### ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29

Thursday Night Jazz, 10pm, KLCC, 89.7 FM

### RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

### SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

## ATTENTION

Community volunteers are needed to become Long-Term Care Ombudsmen to advocate for those in Oregon who live and receive care in nursing homes, assisted living and memory care facilities. The program needs more than another 100 volunteers for the advocacy coming out of the pandemic. The pandemic has spotlighted the need for Long-Term Care Ombudsman services in a time when it is difficult to visit loved ones residing in long-term care. Unfortunately, only 49 percent of Oregon's facilities have a volunteer Ombudsman assigned to them. Two upcoming online trainings are scheduled for 2021: March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18 and April 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29. An application process must be completed. This includes submitting an application either online or by mail or fax, participating in an interview, having references checked and completing a criminal records check. Volunteers are expected to commit for at least a year after completing the training. For more information or to apply, please contact our office: (800) 522-2602 or email ltco.info@oregon.gov. To report a concern at a long-term care facility or to learn more about volunteering, call 1-800-522-2602 or visit Oltco.org. There is a deputy on duty available weekdays from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.



# Art from Near and Far

HIGHLIGHTS FROM WHITE LOTUS GALLERY'S PERMANENT COLLECTION

by Ester Barkai

In this moment of COVID-19 restrictions, when people around the world are being asked to limit their travel, Eugene's White Lotus Gallery presents us with art from as far away as China and as near as Eugene. *Highlights from the Gallery Collection* is drawn from the gallery's permanent collection and features works from 21 different artists. The exhibit runs until March 6.

A problem that artists often face, regardless of the culture with which they identify, is how to make a portrait that is both personal and universal.

Yuji Hiratsuka, whose *intaglio* with *collé* print called "Urban Preacher II" is included in the show, typically leaves specific features off of his figures. Leaving off the eyes — the so-called windows to the soul — might seem a strange custom for an artist, but Hiratsuka relates this practice of omission to the simplicity of zen.

"In this case," he says, "I always leave the face blank or flat and profile very simple. I do not draw eyes or noses on my portraits. The human face is always changing; the face at work is different from the face that enjoys the love."

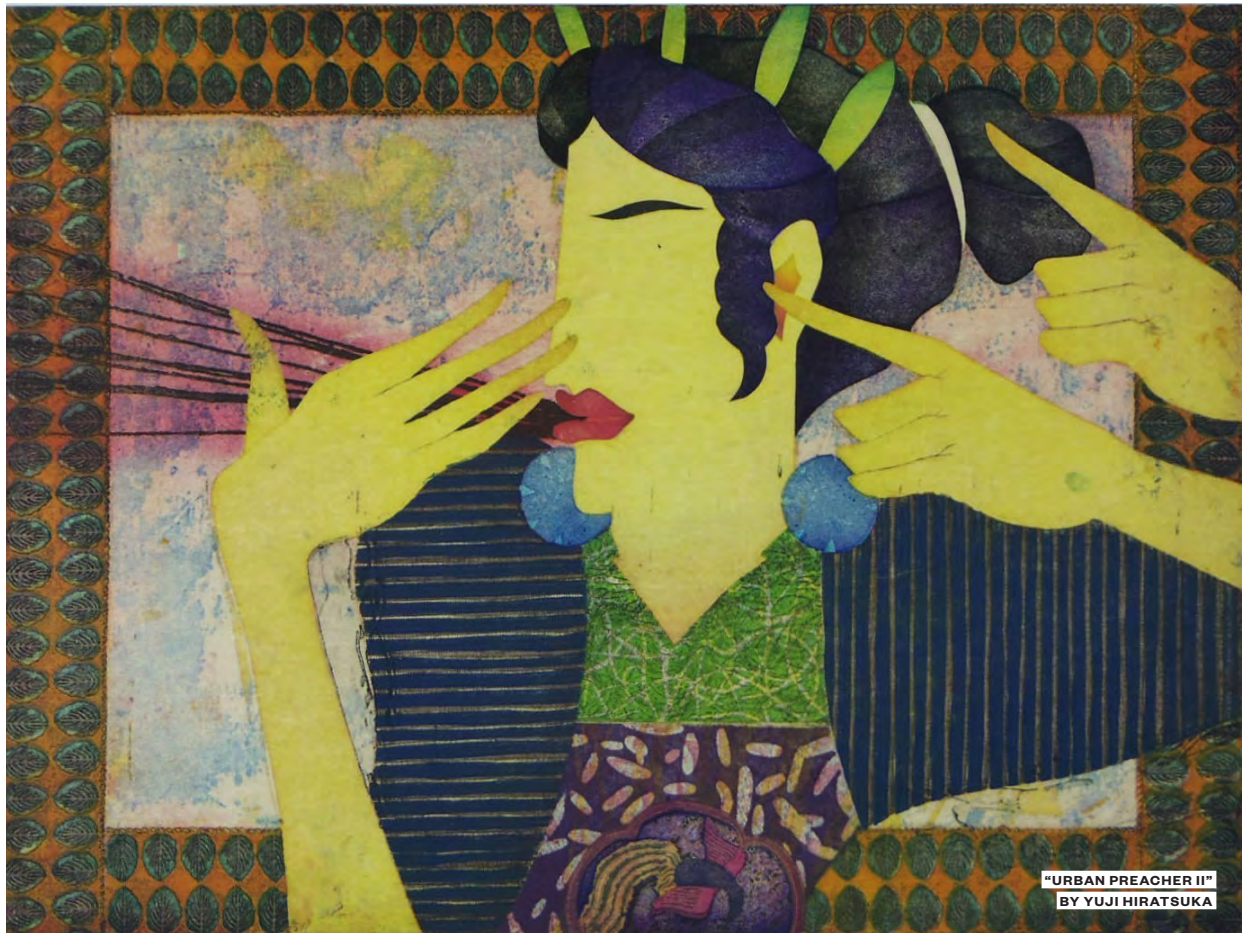
Hiratsuka was born in Osaka, Japan, and studied art education at Tokyo Gakugei University (Tokyo Teachers' University). He initially came to the U.S. to pursue a graduate degree in printmaking at New Mexico State University and has been an art professor at Oregon State University, teaching drawing and printmaking, since 1992.

In addition to having works at White Lotus Gallery, his art is also included in permanent collections of such institutions as the British Museum, Tokyo Central Museum and Portland Art Museum.

He Xuesheng is a Chinese artist who was raised to graze sheep but became more interested in painting. He has three oil paintings in the exhibit: "Journey," "Dwellings" and "Opera — Back Stage."

Xuesheng got his start as a commercial artist with the Wu Shong Cigarette Factory. In 1992 he moved from the SuPu village, where he was raised, to the Beijing area, which is where he still resides. He paints whatever he wants now — versus ads for cigarettes — in a style he calls "*Tu Feng*," or folk custom. He has been represented by White Lotus Gallery since 1995.

White Lotus gallerist Jennifer Huang says the wonder-



"URBAN PREACHER II"  
BY YUJI HIRATSUKA

ful "Opera — Back Stage" (1996) most likely represents a performance in the rural area the artist hails from rather than the Beijing opera. The subject matter then, a crowded mass of operatic figures, is a rural interpretation of city life.

"Southwest Exposure" (1997) by Frank Okada (1931-2000) is an oil on shaped paper. The piece is characteristic of Okada's career as an abstract artist. He was awarded a Whitney Fellowship in 1957, a Fulbright Fellowship in 1959 and a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1967. In 1969 he moved to Eugene to work as an art professor at the University of Oregon.

Okada was born in Seattle. His parents were from

the Hiroshima area in Japan, and came to the U.S. after World War I. During World War II, they and Okada and his siblings spent three years in two detention or relocation camps. After the war the family returned to Seattle, where Okada went to art school; he then was drafted into the army, where he spent time in Korea during the Korean war.

Okada taught art at the University of Oregon for 30 years. His work is widely housed in permanent collections

around the world as well, including at the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art.

White Lotus Gallery does not plan on having any affiliated art receptions, talks or events corresponding to this show, either in person or online. While some participating artists are near, others live abroad and still others have passed away. Even without the social restrictions currently in place, Huang says it makes sense to forgo the traditional art talk.

"The art will have to speak for itself" she says. ■

Highlights from the Gallery Collection runs through March 6 at White Lotus Gallery, 767 Willamette Street. Hours are 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday. Masks required.

If you agree with the following message, please take a picture and e-mail it to your Oregon Senator

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# Still a Hometown Hero

A NEW DOCUMENTARY LOOKS AT COOS BAY'S RELATIONSHIP WITH PRE AND THE LEGACY HE LEFT BEHIND

By Henry Houston

None of the running records set by Steve Prefontaine stand today, nor does the Hayward Field as it was when he set many of them. But his presence still stands tall in the running community and in Oregon. Although his name and likeness are scattered throughout Eugene, from trails to murals on buildings, filmmakers of a new documentary say not many have explored the role of Coos Bay in creating the legend of Pre.

A new documentary titled *Pre's People* looks at the legacy Pre left behind with never-before-seen documents and photos that, as it turns out, offer a way of preserving the town's history. Hollywood films have focused on the 24-year old's James Dean-esque qualities, but two Coos Bay natives, Brad Jenkins and Travis Johnson, have aimed the cameras at those who grew up and coached Pre.

Both filmmakers grew up in Coos Bay and were active in athletics at Marshfield High School as Pre was — Jenkins in football and Johnson in cross country. In 1975, Jenkins' father was the athletic director at Marshfield High, and around that time he says he remembers seeing Pre run for the first time, which ended up being the last record he ever set when he finished the 2,000 meters in 5:01:4.

"I thought Pre was this cool guy. He had these cool sweats and long hair," Jenkins says. "Three weeks later he died, and they had a funeral at Marshfield at the track. I rode my bicycle over from the elementary school and went to the funeral."

Jenkins kept the poster from that final meet, and it's the origin of the documentary. Jenkins says he scanned the poster and handed copies out to people in Coos Bay. "They started telling me these funny Prefontaine stories," he says.

Jenkins pitched the idea of making videos of people remembering Pre to his lifelong friend Johnson, a former TV news reporter who works on documentaries, and they



Photo courtesy Marshfield yearbook Mahiscan

got to work. "Let's focus on what Pre was like growing up in our town," Johnson recalls telling Jenkins when his friend first proposed the project.

The documentary features a lot of unreleased photos, video footage and Pre's training documents. Jenkins says as the research went on for the documentary, people would offer them things like Super 8 mm footage at meets or negatives of Pre. Jenkins' father was able to use his connections as an athletic director at the high school to put Jenkins in touch with former teammates and coaches.

Johnson says that growing up in Coos Bay, he knew of Pre as the tenacious runner who never held back on the track, but he didn't know his background. "When we talked with his teammates, his coaches and competitors, you really got a feel of just how hardcore and intense and laser-focused he was when it came to running," he says.

The filmmakers also traveled to Boise to interview Phil Pursian, who was the assistant coach at Marshfield High School when Pre ran there. "Pursian was the one who really dialed Pre in," Johnson says, adding that Pursian was in charge of writing special workouts for Pre because he was performing at a different level than his teammates.

Johnson recalls arriving at Pursian's house and discovering the former coach has a room dedicated to Pre. "A Prefontaine shrine, mini-museum," he says. "He has not just memorabilia and signed autographs and photographs of him and Pre back in the day, but more importantly, he had three or four notebooks that were his coaching notebooks." Those notebooks are filled with Pre's high school workouts and goals, he says. "It was like the secret sauce, the nitty gritty of what made him so great."

Jenkins says that no one has ever seen those logs before. "That's what makes this project such a beauty," he adds.

Filming for the documentary started in 2011 and started post-production work in 2015. After years of chipping away while juggling full time jobs, the filmmakers released it on Pre's birthday, Jan. 25. Of course, COVID-19 has delayed any large premiere party, but they say they have plans to have an event at Coos Bay's historic Egyptian Theater.

In the process of making the documentary, three of the subjects have died, including Walt McClure, Pre's head coach at Marshfield High. "I'm glad we did it just to preserve that history," Jenkins says. "Some of those stories would've been lost forever." ■

For more information, visit [PresPeopleMovie.com](http://PresPeopleMovie.com). The movie is available to rent and buy on Vimeo.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### Legal Notices

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY,** Probate Department. In the Matter of the Estate of Leah Nettie McElhaney, deceased, Case No. 20PB08571 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the Personal Representative in care of his attorney, Bret Lubie, Attorney at Law, 2416 SW Fifth Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97201, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the probate proceeding may

obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. /s/ Daniel Dale McElhaney, Personal Representative.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS - NOTICE** IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF FRANCIS ALLEN PEW, deceased, Lane County Probate Case No. 21PB00534. Any person having a claim against the Estate is required to present their claim(s), with vouchers attached, to Twyla Dee Kelley, PR, Estate of Francis Allen Pew, c/o Alan R. Buchalter, 399 East 10th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this Notice, or the claim(s) may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 02/18/21. /s/ Twyla Dee Kelley, Personal Representative, 82917 Oak Street, Dexter, Oregon 97431, ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Alan R. Buchalter, OSB No. 922427, 399 East 10th Avenue, Eugene, Oregon 97401, (541) 484-4414

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE** Probate Department Case No. 21PB01081. NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS - In the Matter of the ESTATE OF DARLENE BERKSHIRE, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that MATTHEW BERKSHIRE has been appointed as Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them to the undersigned attorney for Personal Representative at 440 E Broadway, Ste 100, Eugene OR 97401 within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, Personal Representative or the attorney for Personal Representative. /s/ MATTHEW BERKSHIRE, Personal Representative. Leslie L. Canton, OSB #172520, Attorney for Personal Representative, 440 E Broadway Ste 100, Eugene OR 97401. DATED and first published: February 18, 2021.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Brian J. Kirtley has been appointed and has qualified as the personal representative of the Estate of Richard Joe Kirtley, deceased, in Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 21PB00561. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below to the personal representative c/o Tami S.P. Beach, 1184 Olive Street, Eugene, OR 97401, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Date of first publication: 02/04/21. **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Brian J. Kirtley, 56145 307th Lane, Cambridge, IA 50046. **ATTORNEY FOR PERS. REP.:** Tami S.P. Beach, 1184 Olive Street, Eugene, OR 97401

**NOTICE OF CORPORATE DISSOLUTION.** In the matter of Inner Warmth Inc. ("Corporation") notice is hereby given that any person who asserts a claim against the Corporation must: (1) submit written claim that includes claimant's name, address, description of nature / amount of claim -AND- (2) mail said written claim to Inner Warmth Inc. c/o Northwest Legal, 975 Oak Street #700, Eugene OR 97401. Any claim against the Corporation will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within five(5) years after publication of this notice, per ORS 60.644.

**NOTICE OF SEIZURE FOR FORFEITURE** NOTICE TO POTENTIAL CLAIMANT(S) AND TO ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY. These judgements will vest all rights, title and interest in property to The City of Eugene. Said property is described below. Those who believe they may have a valid ownership interest or security interest may contact the seizing agency. You must "claim" an interest in the below described seized property or you will automatically lose an interest you may have. To claim you must contact the seizing agency listed below and file a legal paper called a "claim". The claim must be given to the agency contact within 21 days of the last publication of this notice. The claim must include: 1) your true name 2)

your current and future mailing address 3) a statement that the claimant has an interest in the seized property. The claim must be in the proper form and be signed by you on oath under penalty of perjury. To file a claim or for more information: Lisa Magnus, City of Eugene Police Department, 300 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, (541)682-2804. Seizing Agency: Eugene Police Department, 300 Country Club Road, Eugene, OR 97401, (541)682-5131. Summary Statement of Facts: Case No. EPD 21-01059. On or about 01/20/21; approximately \$11,100.00 in US Currency was seized for criminal forfeiture by the Eugene Police Department from Christopher William Gress. The property is subject to forfeiture pursuant to ORS 131.500-131.600 as proceeds and/or instrumentalities used in the following prohibited conduct and/or the conspiracy to commit the following prohibited conduct: Unlawful Delivery of

Methamphetamine. Forfeiture means that the property will be transferred to the government and persons with any interest in the property will be deprived of that interest without compensation due to the use or acquisition of the property in or through the state prohibited conduct (ORS).

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS - IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY - PROBATE DEPARTMENT** Case No. 21PB00251. In the matter of the Estate of Lena Louise Lewellen, Decedent, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lynne Rae Lewellen has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the aforementioned personal representative c/o Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401, within four

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## Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES

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### Across

1 Heat source?  
6 "Isn't that \_\_\_ much?"  
10 Clinton predecessor or follower  
14 "Quaking" tree  
15 City NNE of Lake Tahoe  
16 Capri or Elba  
17 Copper-colored coin last minted in 1958  
19 Karmann \_\_\_ (classic VW model)  
20 Part of S&L  
21 Knight's transport  
22 My reaction to this ice storm I'm stuck in right now  
25 Alfred E. Neuman line  
29 Scan in  
31 Show announcer  
32 Overabundance  
35 "March Madness" sponsor, for short  
36 Relaxing sound  
39 Sport featured in

the 2005 documentary "Murderball"  
42 Heart-wrenching  
43 Actor Bailey of "Band of Brothers" and "Almost Famous"  
44 E flat's alias  
45 Skim, like with homemade chicken stock  
46 Follow closely, these days  
47 "Never in a million years!"  
53 Dashboard Confessional genre  
54 Tiniest bits  
55 Roswell crafts  
57 '80s-'90s German chancellor Helmut  
58 Discover (or how to determine what the four circled answers have in common)  
64 Swedish store to get lost in  
65 "My Life as \_\_\_" (1985

Swedish film)  
66 Add to the pot  
67 Macedonian's neighbor  
68 "Ermahgerd Gersberms!", for one  
69 Time on a job

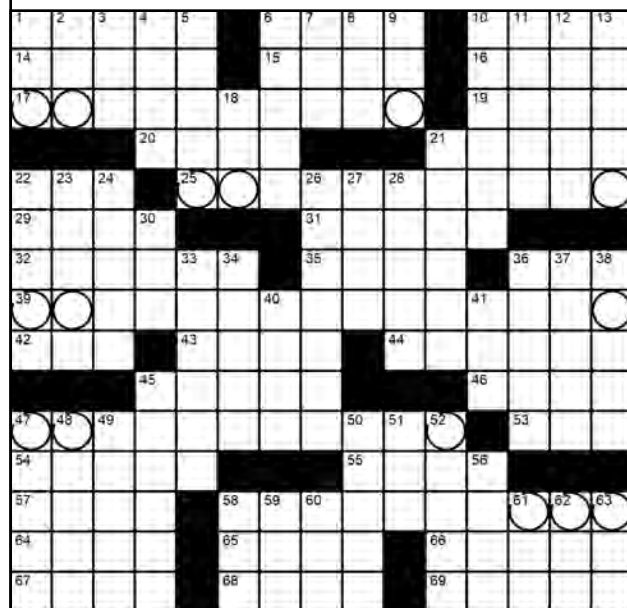
### Down

1 It may be gaping  
2 "Black-\_\_\_" (ABC sitcom)  
3 Magilla Gorilla, really  
4 Brunch, e.g.  
5 Being dragged along  
6 Hockey site, maybe  
7 Actor Whishaw  
8 "Newhart" establishment  
9 Stocking stuffer  
10 It may get stubbed  
11 "The Fall of the House of \_\_\_"  
12 Comparatively cunning  
13 Intoxicating, as liquor  
18 Oom-\_\_\_ bands (Oktoberfest entertainment)

## "Gimme a Reason"

-when you know...

21 Contributes to the jar?  
22 Makes some tea  
23 Singer Bebe  
24 Competed at Daytona  
26 Renters  
27 80 years into the future, in movie credits (will we even have movies?)  
28 Animated alternative to mailing a greeting  
30 "Don't Go Breaking My Heart" vocalist Kiki  
33 Catches some Z's  
34 "Futurama" genre  
36 Colorful quartz  
37 Former U.S. President James \_\_\_ Garfield  
38 Prefix with therapy  
40 "Ashes to Ashes" novelist Tami  
41 Conversation lapses  
45 Crime investigation facility  
47 Collaborative websites  
48 Robert who introduced the term "cell" to biology  
49 Air beyond the clouds  
50 Chocolate candy cut into cubes  
51 "Summer Girls" boy band  
52 Succinct letter signoff  
56 Fantasy football figure  
58 Kinfolk, for short  
59 Ending with fluor-  
60 \_\_\_ de plume  
61 Nintendo Switch predecessor  
62 Channel for buying stuff from your couch  
63 By this point



ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S



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**eugene.or** Today marks the first #BlackHistoryMonth since the murder of George Floyd. This month and always we stand in solidarity as our friends and neighbors fight to make #BlackLivesMatter. Photo by [@oneteadastgah](https://www.instagram.com/oneteadastgah)



# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

**ARIES** (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Atheists like to confront religious people with accusations like this: “If God is so good, why does he allow suffering in the world?” Their simplistic, childish idea of God as some sort of Moral Policeman is ignorant of the lush range of ruminations about the Divine as offered down through the ages by poets, novelists, philosophers and theologians. For example, poet Stéphane Mallarmé wrote, “Spirit cares for nothing except universal musicality.” He suggested that the Supreme Intelligence is an artist making music and telling stories. And as you know, music and stories include all human adventures, not just the happy stuff. I bring these thoughts to your attention, Aries, because the coming weeks will be a favorable time to honor and celebrate the marvelously rich stories of your own life — and to feel gratitude for the full range of experience with which they have blessed you. PS: Now is also a favorable phase to rethink and reconfigure your answers to the Big Questions.

**TAURUS** (APRIL 20-MAY 20): Blogger Rachel C. Lewis confides, “I love being horribly straightforward. I love sending reckless text messages and telling people I love them and telling people they are absolutely magical humans and I cannot believe they really exist. I love saying, ‘Kiss me harder,’ and ‘You’re a good person,’ and, ‘You brighten my day.’” What would your unique version of Lewis’s forthrightness be like, Taurus? What brazen praise would you offer? What declarations of affection and care would you unleash? What naked confessions might you reveal? The coming days will be a favorable time to explore these possibilities.

**GEMINI** (MAY 21-JUNE 20): It’s a good time to become more of who you are by engaging with more of what you are not. Get in the mood for this heroic exercise by studying the following rant by Gemini poet Adam Zagajewski (who writes in Polish), translated by Gemini poet Clare Cavanaugh: “Read for yourselves, read for the sake of your inspiration, for the sweet turmoil in your lovely head. But also read against yourselves, read for questioning and impotence, for despair and erudition, read the dry, sardonic remarks of cynical philosophers. Read those whose darkness or malice or madness or greatness you can’t yet understand, because only in this way will you grow, outlive yourself, and become what you are.”

**CANCER** (JUNE 21-JULY 22): You’re on the verge of breakthroughs. You’re ready to explore frontiers, at least in your imagination. You’re brave enough to go further and try harder than you’ve been able to before. With that in mind, here’s a highly apropos idea from Cancerian novelist Tom Robbins. He writes, “If you take any activity, any art, any discipline, any skill, take it and push it as far as it will go, push it beyond where it has ever been before, push it to the wildest edge of edges, then you force it into the realm of magic.” (I might use the word “coax” or “nudge” instead of “force” in Robbins’ statement.)

**LEO** (JULY 23-AUG. 22): In her story “Homelanding,” Margaret Atwood writes, “Take me to your trees. Take me to your breakfasts, your sunsets, your bad dreams, your shoes. Take me to your fingers.” I’d love you to express requests like that. It’s a favorable time for you to delve deeper into the mysteries of people you care about. You will generate healing and blessings by cultivating reverent curiosity and smart empathy and crafty intimacy. Find out more about your best allies!

**VIRGO** (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): You’re about to reach the end of your phase of correction and adjustment. To mark this momentous transition, and to honor your ever-increasing ability to negotiate with your demons, I offer you the following inspirational proclamation by poet Jeanette Napolitano: “I don’t want to look back in five years’ time and think, ‘We could have been magnificent, but I was afraid.’ In five years, I want to tell of how fear tried to cheat me out of the best thing in life, and I didn’t let it.”

**LIBRA** (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): It’s not a good time for you to be obsessed with vague abstractions, fear-based fantasies and imaginary possibilities. But it is a favorable phase to rise up in behalf of intimate, practical changes. At least for now, I also want to advise you not to be angry and militant about big, complicated issues that you have little power to affect. On the other hand, I encourage you to get inspired and aggressive about injustices you can truly help fix and erroneous approaches you can correct and close-at-hand dilemmas for which you can summon constructive solutions.

**SCORPIO** (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): “The most beautiful things are those that madness prompts and reason writes,” declared author André Gide. As a writer myself, I will testify to the truth of that formulation. But what about those of you who aren’t poets and novelists and essayists? Here’s how I would alter Gide’s statement to fit you: “The most beautiful things are those that rapture prompts and reason refines.” Or maybe this: “The most beautiful things are those that experimentation finds and reason uses.” Or how about this one: “The most beautiful things are those that wildness generates and reason enhances.” Any and all of those dynamics will be treasures for you in the coming weeks.

**SAGITTARIUS** (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): The poet Nayyirah Waheed has some advice I want you to hear. She writes, “Be easy. Take your time. You are coming home to yourself.” I will add that from my astrological perspective, the coming weeks will indeed be a time for you to relax more deeply into yourself — to welcome yourself fully into your unique destiny; to forgive yourself for what you imagine are your flaws; to not wish you were someone else pursuing a different path; to be at peace and in harmony with the exact life you have.

**CAPRICORN** (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): “The chief object of education is not to learn things but to unlearn things,” wrote author G. K. Chesterton. He was exaggerating for dramatic effect when he said that, as he often did. The more nuanced truth is that one of the central aims of education is to learn things, and another very worthy aim is to unlearn things. I believe you are currently in a phase when you should put an emphasis on unlearning things that are irrelevant and meaningless and obstructive. This will be excellent preparation for your next phase, which will be learning a lot of useful and vitalizing new things.

**AQUARIUS** (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943) ultimately became one of the 20th century’s most renowned composers. But his career had a rough start. Symphony No. 1, his first major work, was panned by critics, sending him into a four-year depression. Eventually he recovered. His next major composition, Piano Concerto No. 2, was well-received. I don’t anticipate that your rookie offerings or new work will get the kind of terrible reviews that Rachmaninoff’s did. But at least initially, there may be no great reviews, and possibly even indifference. Keep the faith, my dear. Don’t falter in carrying out your vision of the future. The rewards will come in due time.

**PISCES** (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Ancient Greek playwright Euripides was popular and influential — and remains so to this day, 2,400 years later. But there’s a curiously boring aspect in five of his plays, *Andromache*, *Alcestis*, *Helen*, *Medea* and *The Bacchae*. They all have the same exact ending: six lines, spoken by a chorus, that basically say the gods are unpredictable. Was Euripides lazy? Trying too hard to drive home the point? Or were the endings added later by an editor? Scholars disagree. The main reason I’m bringing this to your attention is to encourage you to avoid similar behavior. I think it’s very important that the stories you’re living right now have different endings than all the stories of your past.

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months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or attorney for the personal representative, Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ESTATE OF ANNE LOUISE MONTGOMERY LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB00943.** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the Personal Representative Amianne DeLong, c/o Janice L. Mackey, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published 02/11/21.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS, ESTATE OF AKIKO K. ODA, LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21 PB 00876.** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the undersigned personal representative at Randall Y. S. Ching c/o Mark M. Williams, Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published February 11, 2021. **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Russell Y. S. Ching, 99-761 Holoai Street, Alea, Hawaii 96701. **ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER/PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Mark M. Williams, OSB#821404, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401-2459. 541-393-6720/541.344-7487 FAX, mark@williams-law.com

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS, ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN MILLER, LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB01089.** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the undersigned personal

representative at Michelle Bailey c/o Mark M. Williams, Attorney at Law, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published February 18, 2021. **PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Michelle M. Bailey, 8560 W. Baseline Road Lafayette, CO 80026. **ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER/PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE:** Mark M. Williams, OSB#821404, 66 Club Road, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401-2459, 541-393-6720/ 541.344-7487 FAX, mark@williams-law.com

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS:** Probate administration proceedings in the Estate of Carol Ann Jones, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 21PB00329, and Gina Salt has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above-entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 4th day of February, 2021.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS:** Probate proceedings in the Estate of Janice B. Draper, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 21PB00738, and Kimberly D. Zemek has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 4th day of February, 2021.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS:** Probate proceedings in the Estate of Joyce M. Smith, Deceased, are now pending in the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, Case No. 21PB01192, and Gary A. Smith has been appointed Personal Representative of the estate. All

persons having claims against the estate are required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to the Personal Representative, c/o Gleaves Swearingen LLP, Attorneys at Law, 975 Oak Street, Suite 800, Eugene, OR 97401, within 4 months from the date of the first publication of this notice or such claims may be barred. **NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** to all persons whose rights may be affected by the above-entitled proceedings that additional information may be obtained from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published this 18th day of February, 2021.

**NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. ESTATE OF CHARLOTTE GAIL HEIDE. LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 20PB08854.** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Jessica DeMoss, Oregon Community Credit Union, has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Charlotte Gail Heide. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the Personal Representative, c/o Janice L. Mackey, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published 02/04/21.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE, PROBATE DEPARTMENT.** In the Matter of THE CHRISTOPHER TRUST, dated June 24, 1991, as amended. Case No.: 21PB01250 **NOTICE OF TIME TO FILE CLAIM** As and for the trustees’ notice of time for filing a claim, the trustees submit the following: 1. The name of the settlor and the last four digits of the settlor’s social security number are as follows: Laurence Christopher, 9865. 2. The names of the trustees and the address at which the claims must be presented are as follows: Michael A. Welt and Martin S. Hall, c/o Donald J. Churnside, Hershner Hunter, LLP, 180 E. 11th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401. 3. Claims against the trust estate that are not presented to the trustees within 30 days after the date of this notice may be barred. 4. The date of the notice is the date on which this notice is delivered or mailed, February 16, 2021. 5. A certified copy of the settlor’s death certificate is attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A**, and by this reference incorporated herein as if set forth in full. 6. A claim submitted against the assets of the estate must be in the form prescribed by ORS 130.375. **DATED** February 16, 2021. /s/ Donald J. Churnside, OSB No. 791876, Hershner Hunter LLP, Email: dchurnside@hershnerhunter.com, Attorney for Trustee



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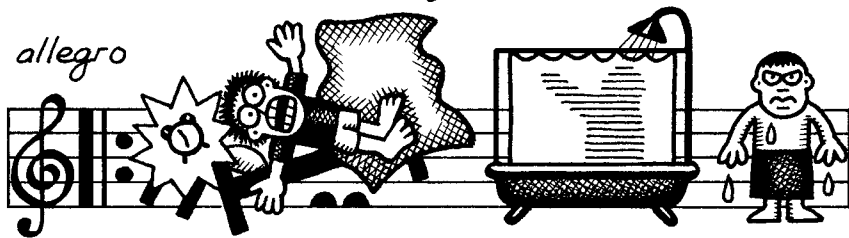


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# SAVAGE LOVE

**Pandemic  
Pressures**  
BY DAN SAVAGE



*I'm a gay guy living in New York in his late twenties. My boyfriend has really been emotionally impacted by the pandemic, having been a frontline worker. I think he is suffering from some mild depression, or at the very least some intense anxiety, so I just want to preface this by saying I completely sympathize with what he's going through. Before the pandemic we had a really good sex life, but lately he hasn't been interested in sex at all besides a few assisted masturbation sessions. While I know that these aren't usual times, I can't help feeling rejected. Normally, I would suggest opening up the relationship, for the sake of both myself and him, and I think that he might benefit from having sex with some guys where there isn't an emotional investment. Of course, right now that isn't an option. I want to be there for him and we otherwise have a solid relationship, but this issue has been making me feel hurt. I've encouraged him to masturbate without me, but I do wish he could include me more in his sexual life. Do you have any other thoughts or advice?*

— Thanks For Reading

As much as I hate to give you an unsatisfactory answer — you aren't satisfied with what you're getting at home and you're not going to be satisfied with what you get from me either — the only way to find out whether his loss of libido is entirely pandemic-related, TFR, is to wait out of the pandemic and see if your sexual connection doesn't rebound and/or if opening up the relationship is the right move for you guys as a couple. But if you suspect the collapse of your boyfriend's libido has more to do with what he's witnessed and endured as a front-line worker than it has to do with you or your relationship, TFR, therapy will do him more good than sleeping with other guys or masturbating without you. Urge him to do that instead.

*My dad is dying. He had a stroke two days ago and is in a coma with no brain function. My aunt (his sister) is trying to make me feel guilty for not traveling to see him. Even though I'm pregnant and at high risk. I would have to take an airplane across the country and multiple public buses to see him. I would have to risk my baby's life to say goodbye to a man I love with all my heart. She insists that if I don't, I didn't love my dad. I'm heartbroken. I keep calling his hospice and they set the phone next to his head so I can talk to him. He was so excited about my pregnancy and I know he would not want me to risk it. But now not only am I grieving my father, I feel guilty and selfish. Am I right to be angry? My aunt's brother is dying. She's sad. Everyone is sad. But this is not the first time she has used guilt to try and control others in moments of trauma.*

— Crying On My Abdomen

There has to be someone in your life who would be willing to step in and tell your aunt to go fuck herself. If there isn't, COMA, send me your aunt's phone and I'll do it.

P.S. I'm so sorry about your dad — who is already gone — and I'm sorry your kid won't get to meet their grandfather. And you have every right to be furious with your aunt for giving you grief when you have all the grief you can handle right now. Don't get on that plane. And if your aunt never speaks to you again, COMA, just think of all the guilt trips she won't be able to drag along on in the future.

*I am a 26-year-old heterosexual girl. After four years with my boyfriend (and with the pandemic on top of it), we started to experience sex issues. It is mainly from my side, I (almost) never get satisfaction out of sex. I'm always enthusiastic about having sex but I don't feel "involved" and I could literally be solving math problems in my head while we have sex. As the situation is frustrating, I talked to him and suggested that more foreplay could help me stay engaged and enjoy the sex. He was puzzled by my "need for foreplay" to reach orgasm but committed to trying. However, after minimal initial effort, he stopped trying and the limited foreplay ceased. He probably got frustrated by the amount of time I require to "warm up" and his efforts dried up and he began rebuffing me whenever I attempted to initiate sex. Recently after he turned my sexual advances down yet again, I decided to masturbate. The result was him being upset and taking offense at my "unpleasant behavior." Should I feel guilty about masturbating when he turns me down? I am hurt and I am very frustrated by this situation.*

— Masturbation Alone Turns Harsh

Allow me to decipher the message your pussy is desperately trying to send you, MATH, as you lay there doing math problems while your boyfriend uses treats your body like it's a Fleshlight: "Wouldn't you rather masturbate alone and in peace than ever have to fuck this asshole again?" Everyone requires a little foreplay, women require more than men do, it takes women longer to get off than it takes men (five minutes on average for men, thirteen minutes on average for women), and very few women can climax from vaginal intercourse alone. Any straight guy who isn't willing to do the work — provide the necessary foreplay and come through with the non-PIV stimulation or concurrent-with-PIV stimulation required to get a woman off — doesn't deserve to have a girlfriend. DTMFA.

*I'm a 53-year-old gay man and I've never been hornier in my life. I really need to guzzle about a quart of jizz right now. I haven't been dating anyone and the COVID isolation has intensified my loneliness, but it's the lack of D that's driving me to distraction. The last time I sucked a dick was the afternoon Los Angeles began its first shutdown. Here's the thing. I just had the first dose of the vaccine and the second is scheduled in a couple weeks. Is it safe to suck someone's dick who has also had the vaccine? Everything I found on google only talks about how the vaccine may affect pregnant women. What about us cum whores?*

— Got the Fever for the Flavor

Where have you been? I predicted at the beginning of the pandemic — based on what little we knew about transmission at the time — that we were entering a new golden age of glory holes. Two months later the New York City Health department was recommending "barriers, like walls, that allow sexual contact while preventing close face-to-face contact," aka glory holes — and that was the harm-reduction advice given by health professionals long before vaccines became available. Seeing as you're vaccinated, your risks are going to be lower. But to play it safe: build your own glory hole, invite a guy over, tell him to keep his mask on, and avoid close face-to-face by staying on your knees on the other side of that barrier.

*I wanted to second something you wrote about kinks last week. You said — I'm paraphrasing here — that kinks are hard-wired but some people do manage to acquire them. My husband is into rope bondage. I gave it a try a couple of times at the very start of our relationship, and for whatever reason being tied up didn't work for me. We had great vanilla sex and he had a small stable of bondage boys on the side. A few months after the lockdowns began he started to worry about getting rusty. I offered to let him practice on me. I don't know what changed, Dan, but when he tied me up for the first time in a decade, I was so turned on! At first I thought it was the pot edible but we've done it a bunch of times since, times when I wasn't high, and I've enjoyed it just as much or more. Now I'm the one pestering him to go get the ropes. I somehow acquired his kink and he couldn't be happier!*

— Restrictions Of Pandemic Enables Development

P.S. I would've called in to share our "pandemic sex success story" for your podcast but my mom and both sisters all listen to the show and they really don't need to know.

Thanks for sharing, ROPED!

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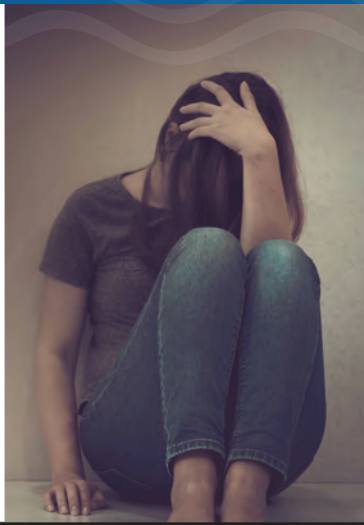
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